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NO. 8421 P. 1

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Attorney Docket No. 03685/LH

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT  
AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Kazuhisa KIMURA

Serial No. : 10/716,899

Filed : November 18, 2003

For : INK JET RECORDING  
MAINTENANCE APPARATUS  
AND INK JET RECORDING  
APPARATUS

Art Unit : 2853

Examiner : MIER, STEPHEN D.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
WITH STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97(e)  
AND STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.704(d)

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

S I R :

Submitted herewith are the following:

- (1) Copy of a European Search Report dated June 28, 2005, issued in a European application which is a counterpart of related U.S. Serial No. 10/396,307 (which corresponds to US 2004/0189742, cited in the IDS filed October 12, 2004);
- (2) Copies of cited publications (except U.S. patents and publications); and
- (3) Form PTO/SB/08A.

The European Search Report is in English, thereby satisfying the requirements for a concise explanation of relevance for any non-English language publications cited therein (MPEP 609 III A(3)).

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE  
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TOTAL PAGES: 32

I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450. Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on the date noted below.

N. Sahadeo

Nalini P. Sahadeo

Dated: July 26, 2005

In the event that this Paper is late filed, and the necessary petition for extension of time is not filed concurrently herewith, please consider this as a Petition for the requisite extension of time, and to the extent not tendered by credit card payment, authorization to charge the extension fee, or any other fee required in connection with this Paper to Account No.

USP 6,260,944 listed on the attached PTO/SB/08A is a counterpart of EP 0 513 833 cited in the attached European Search Report. See the Annex to the European Search Report.

**STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97(e) (1)**

Each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the present Information Disclosure Statement. Said Communication bears a mailing date of June 28, 2005. Therefore, the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement is timely under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97(e) and does not require a fee.

**STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.704(d)**

Each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in said communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application, and this communication was not received by any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of the present Information Disclosure Statement.

It is requested that an initialed copy of the Form PTO/SB/08A be returned to indicate that the publications listed therein have been considered and made of record.

Respectfully submitted,

Leonard Holtz Esq.  
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PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>		Application Number	10/716,899	
		Filing Date	November 18, 2003	
		First Named Inventor	Kazuhisa KIMURA	
		Group Art Unit	2853	
		Examiner Name	MEIER, STEPHEN D.	
Sheet	1	of	1	
Attorney Docket Number				03685/LH

**U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Exam. Inits <sup>4</sup>	Cite No <sup>5</sup>	Document Number	Kind Code <sup>6</sup>	Name of Patentee or Applicant	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Relevant Portion
		4,829,318		RACICOT et al	05-09-1989	
		5,886,714	A	BURNET et al	03-23-1999	
		6,260,944	B1	MOCHIZUKI et al	07-17-2001	

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Exam. Inits <sup>4</sup>	Cite No <sup>5</sup>	Office <sup>7</sup>	Document Number <sup>8</sup>	Kind Code <sup>9</sup>	Name of Patentee or Applicant	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Relevant Portion	T <sup>10</sup>
		EP	0 513 833	A2	SEIKO EPSON CORP.	11-19-1992		

Examiner  
SignatureDate  
Considered

\* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup> See kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication \_\_\_\_\_ of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Place a check here if English translation is attached.

DATE MAILED: July 26, 2005